

## REMARKS

The Examiner required restriction to one of the following:

Group I: Claims 1 – 21, drawn to a vacuum apparatus, classified in class 53, subclass 510.

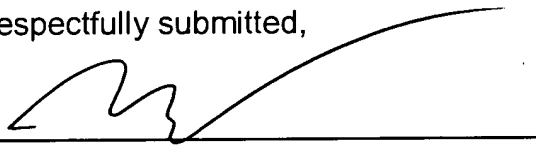
Group II: Claims 22 – 37, drawn to a method of operating a vacuum packaging appliance, classified in class 53, subclass 432.

The Applicant elects the claims of Group I, that is, claims 1 – 21. The Applicant hereby cancels claims 22 – 37. The Applicant further submits new claims 38 – 41 directed towards the inventions of Group I. No new matter has been added. Therefore claims 1 – 21 and 38 – 41 are pending in the application.

Should any questions arise, the Examiner is encouraged to call the undersigned at (650) 838-4300.

Date: April 4, 2005

Respectfully submitted,

  
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